



Weymouth School Committee

A Resolution Regarding a New Middle School

- WHEREAS the facility now known as the Maria Weston Chapman Middle School was built in 1961 as a comprehensive high school with vocational school and has served this community and its students well over the years, and
- WHEREAS a four year process including a two year, \$1 million feasibility study through the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) has established that the educational needs of our current middle school students are not the same as the high school students for which the facility was built, thereby making the current building ill-suited for the learning needs of today's students, and
- WHEREAS despite strong maintenance and upkeep over the years, the current building is in need of significant repair and upgrade, projected to cost over \$100 million, which would no more than meet minimal building code requirements, including asbestos removal, and
- WHEREAS such a renovation would provide no educational improvements as detailed in the Chapman Educational Plan (also created as part of the MSBA Feasibility Study), and
- WHEREAS the current structure of the building including walls of solid concrete, outdated heating equipment, and inaccessible plumbing and electrical systems would continue to prevent needed updates such as reasonable access to wireless internet, or improved heating and ventilation efficiency, and
- WHEREAS Weymouth has qualified for over \$50 million in state funds to build a new, state of the art middle school through the MSBA, and
- WHEREAS after such grant, the remaining cost of said new building to be paid by the Town of Weymouth would be little more than the \$100 million required for a renovation, and
- WHEREAS scores of hours of meetings involving hundreds of community members, educators, and students have been held to provide input on the design of a new facility, and
- WHEREAS such new facility would be more energy-efficient, would be a significant community resource, (including meeting spaces, new auditorium, renovated gymnasium, wrap-around health services, and outdoor recreation spaces), and would be purpose-built to properly serve students in the sixth, seventh and eighth grades, making this a building all of Weymouth citizens can be proud of and enjoy, therefore be it
- RESOLVED that the Weymouth School Committee, does this day vote to endorse the building of a new middle school, and be it further

RESOLVED that the Committee urges the Mayor and Weymouth Town Council to appropriate such funds as may be necessary to cover Weymouth's portion of the cost of said new school, and finally, be it

RESOLVED that the Committee entreats the citizens of Weymouth to support with their votes any temporary debt exclusion measure that might be authorized by the Mayor and Town Council in accordance with MGL Ch. 59 § 21c to allow the reasonable amortization of said costs.

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Enacted by the Weymouth School Committee on this Twenty-Eighth day of February
Two Thousand Nineteen

Lisa Belmarsh
Chair
Weymouth School Committee